Correspondence.

LANDING STAGES, LIVERPOOL.

SIR,—Some time in March last I forwarded a design for the approval of the chairman and committee of the Liverpool Docks, in answer to the advertisements for the best plan for a landing stage at George's Pier head. This is now upwards of two months since, and as yet no one seems to have heard a single word more about the matter. Whether any decision is arrived at or not, I think that, where the time is so protracted as it is in this instance, the secretary of the committee should have forwarded some reason for the delay, either to THE BUILDER or other periodical current amongst us.

Perhaps the premiums are not to be given at all, and we shall yet see some favourite carrying out piecemeal the gathered ideas from the 200 designs, which number it was rumoured were sent in! I sincerely hope, for the credit of such a respectable body as the committee of the Liverpool Docks, nothing of the kind will take place.

Through your numerous correspondents you may be able to furnish us with some information of the actual state of the case.

I am, Sir, &c., A. I. C. E.

*** The following advertisement has since appeared, and seems far from satisfactory:—"The committee, of the Liverpool Docks having, in conformity with their advertisement of the 6th of February last, awarded premiums to two of the designs for landing stages, which, though they cannot either of them be acted upon, appear to possess the fewest objections in principle, and to approach the nearest in general idea to what will have to be adopted, do hereby give notice to the several unsuccessful competitors that their respective designs will be returned upon application being made for them; or the committee are willing to allow the use of the spare rooms in this building, without charge, for a limited period, for the purpose of exhibiting the designs to the public. Competitors desirous of having their designs exhibited, are therefore requested to appoint from among themselves some party or parties to take charge of and to be responsible for them, and signify their wish to the undersigned, within fourteen days from this date, in order that the necessary steps may be taken. All expenses connected with the exhibition to be borne by the competitors."

CEMENTS.—CEMENT ON IRON.

SIR, — A correspondent in Number 115 wishes me to explain the difference in the properties of Maude's Portland Cement, Pulham's Portland-stone Cement, and Austin's Stone-colour Cement, they all being described as a close resemblance to Portland stone. I do not undertake to explain the properties more than I have done in my former article; but I may say, in answer, that two out of the three are not a close resemblance to Portland stone, and, indeed, I was not aware that there was a cement in use called Austin's Stone-colour Cement. I herewith send you a piece of Pulham's Portland-stone Cement, not made for a specimen, but cut off, after being in weather six years, where an alteration was made, and that you may decide which is an *imitation of Portland stone*, as you will probably have an opportunity of seeing some of Maude's Portland Cement, as in Threadneedle-street, and Austin's vases, &c., in the New-road.

I should be glad to see the question answered, asked by a plasterer in No. 112,—the reason the basins in Trafalgar-square were repaired with Roman cement, the bottoms being laid with Maude's Portland Cement; for, as he says, it would be well to know.

A subscriber, who wants to know the best cement for running mouldings on iron girders, should be told cement or plaster is not run on iron girders; they must have battens or ledges fastened to them, and then lathed in the ordinary way, and then plastered.

Huddesdon. JAMES PULHAM.

*** We may not venture to institute comparisons without a longer acquaintance with the cement referred to. Its appearance is good

As relates to running mouldings on iron girders, another correspondent says this can be safely done if care is used, with Johns' Stucco Cement.

Miscellanea.

ETON COLLEGE CHAPEL.—Plans are being prepared by a limited number of architects, in competition, for the perfect restoration of this chapel. The competitors are said to be Messrs. Buckler, Butterfield, Elmslie, Deeson, Derick, and Ferrey. Mr. Shaw and another architect are to decide on their merits. Mr. Shaw being the attached architect of the college, the whole proceedings seem somewhat singular.

VACANCY IN THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AT HULL.—The appointment of resident engineer to the Dock Company at Kingston-upon-Hull, will shortly become vacant by the resignation of Mr. M. Lane. Candidates are to forward their testimonials to the secretary of the company on or before the 14th instant. The salary is upwards of 300*l.* per annum.

BRONZE WORKS OF ART.—Some misunderstanding having lately taken place on the part of the Custom-House authorities, as to the meaning of the resolution of the House of Commons admitting "bronze works of art" duty free, it has been decided that all works of art, whether composed of bronze or other metal, are to be delivered free of duty.

LIGHT FOR ALL NATIONS.—The stupendous undertaking of erecting a lighthouse on the Godwin Sands is at length completed. Mr. Bush, the engineer, has determined upon throwing it open to public inspection during the present month, in aid of the funds of the Royal Free Hospital in Gray's Inn-road. The terms of admission are 2*s.* 6*d.* each person.

RAILWAY SPEED.—The distance between London and Birmingham was lately performed in one hour and forty-five minutes. One hundred and ten miles in one hundred and five minutes!

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—Mr. Eastlake, R.A. has addressed a letter to Sir Robert Peel, pointing out the unfitness of the present building for its purpose. We shall revert to it next week.

Tenders.

TENDERS for the erection of a New Rectory at Pyrford, near Ripley, in the county of Surrey, under the superintendence of Mr. H. Baker, architect, of Upper Gower-street.

Pearse and Guerrier	£1,087
Boxall	1,018
Lothere	1,010
Ire	999
Winsland	987
Allen	935
Mason	883

Tenders delivered May 30th, 1845, for building seven Private Houses, also Dwelling House, with Shops, &c., for E. Lacey, Esq., Mr. T. Coe, surveyor.

Jay	£4,418
Gerry	4,286
Ashby	4,271
Elston	4,195
Lawrence	4,165
Lefevre	4,085
Willson	3,994

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

[We are compelled by the interference of the Stamp Office to omit the names of the parties to whom tenders, &c., are to be addressed. For the convenience of our readers however, they are entered in a book, and may be seen on application at the office of "The Builder," 2, York-street, Covent-garden.]

For the performance of the necessary works in the construction of a New Dock in the Borough of Kingston-upon-Hull.

For Building the Carcasses of certain first-rate Houses, with Shop Fronts, in the new line of Oxford-street, leading into Holborn.

For executing Works on the Leeds, Dewsbury, and Manchester Railway, being a distance of about 4½ miles. The principal work on this division is the summit Tunnel, near Morley, which is upwards of 3,000 yards in length.

For the erection of Schools, and a Master's House, and also a new Farm-house and Offices, on the Estate of the Rev. E. K. Benyon, near Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

For constructing about 450 feet of new Wharf, along the River-side, in the Town of Wisbeach, and for erecting a new Crane and Warehouse for the Corporation of Wisbeach.

For the execution of a New Harbour at Greenock.

For the supplying of certain Mines in Cornwall, for twelve months from Midsummer next, with Norway Timber, half Dram and half Longsend, of good quality and average length. The probable quantity required is 710 loads.

For Building a Sewer in the King's Road, St. Pancras, of the dimensions of 4 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 9 inches, for a length of 250 feet.

For building the intended Somerset County Lunatic Asylum.

For the Works necessary in extending the Tower Hamlet Sewers, in one District to the length of 2,570 feet, in a second District to the length of 1,915 feet, and in a third District to the length of 660 feet.

For erecting the New Church of St. Andrew, at Wakefield, Yorkshire.

For painting, and keeping in repair the Lanterns and Fittings of the several Gas Lamps in the Parish of St. Mary, Islington, from Midsummer 1845 to Midsummer 1846.

For the construction of Two Divisions of the Chester and Holyhead Railway, being Nos. 8 and 12. No. 8 contains a length of 7 miles and 54 chains. No. 12 contains a length of 5 miles and 26 chains.

For erecting a New Parsonage House at Iken, near Oxford, Suffolk.

For painting the exterior Wood and Metal Work of the British Infirmary.

For supplying the Lords, Bailiff, and Jurats of Romney Marsh with 2,000 six-feet Deal Ends, 3 by 12, either white or yellow American, at per 100, (of 120 Ends).

For the erection of a Building in London for a highly patronised purpose, at the estimated cost of about 30,000*l.*

COMPETITIONS.

Plans, sections, and elevations for a Terminus, and other requisite accompanying offices, for the Great Southern and Western Railway, Ireland.

Designs for houses to be erected at Dover. The ground is nearly seven acres in extent, and lies on a gentle slope between the south-west boundary of Dover Castle and the town. A premium of fifty guineas is offered for the set that may be most approved of.

APPROACHING SALES OF WOOD, &c.

BY AUCTION.

The timber and other trees now standing upon the estate at Woodseaves, Salop. By order of the Lord Chancellor made in the cause "Dickin v. Barker."

At Everaden Wood, Cambridge: 80 Oak Timber Trees, clean, sound, and of useful dimensions.

At Bourn, Cambridge: a capital Fall of prime Oak Timber, comprising about 100 Trees of good dimensions.

At Brandon, near Coventry: several Thousand prime Oak Trees, and a quantity of Planks and Quarterings.

At Bourne, Cambridge: 63 Oak Timber Trees; many of them are of very excellent quality, of great length, and particularly clean and straight. and excellent quality.

At Halstead, Essex: a quantity of capital Oak Timber, &c., in Great Spansey's Wood, near Halstead.

At Richardson's Wharf, Limehouse: a large quantity of superior dry and sound stock of Dantzic Yellow and Red Pine, Ash, Swedish and Memel Timber; about 10,000 White Spruce and Yellow Battens, &c.

At Coneygre Wood, Rickling, Essex: 105 Oak Timber Trees of excellent quality.

At 17, Millbank-street, Westminster: a remarkably fine parcel of Marble, consisting of Statuary, Vein, Dove, Bardilla, Griotte, Black, and Black and Gold; also four 16-feet Column Blocks of Sicilian Marble.

At Wimbish Hall, near Saffron Waldon: 400 Oak, Ash, and Elm Timber Trees, many of large dimensions, and the whole useful for building or other purposes.

At the Angel Inn, Warminster: a quantity of very capital Oak, Ash, Elm, Beech, Larch, and other Timber Trees, comprising about 400 Trees and 150 Saplings.

At Ryston Hall, near Downham Market: a superior fall of Oak, Ash, Elm, and Fir Timber Trees, comprising 50 Large Oaks, from 30 to 40 feet in length; 20 smaller ones; 46 Ash and Elm Trees; 86 Old Spruce Firs; 5 Hornbeam, &c.

BY TENDER.

A Virgin Forest of Valuable Timber in Walachia. The principal part of the Trees is Oak. The said Forest may produce about 500,000 cubic feet of Timber.

At Little Bentley Hall, Essex: several Acres of Plantations, consisting of superior Firs, Larch, Spruce, &c., to be taken down by the Purchaser.

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